US-PAT-NO: 6178167

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6178167 B1

TITLE: Customer telecommunication interface device having
a unique identifier

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Stated in other words, one of the features that may be
included in the
disclosed apparatus is a downloading feature. This feature
places a call to a
designated number and downloads data into memory 320 (e.g.,
in FIG. 6, or the
NVRAM portion of memory 440 in FIG. 7). The manner by
which microprocessor 300
interacts with the designated number and downloads the data
is quite simple,
since the only difference between downloading a program and
receiving data that
is sent to port 400 (in FIG. 6) is that the destination of
the data is changed;
that is, the signal is captured by processor 300 via line
303. The concept of
downloading features and capabilities is disclosed in U.S.
patent application
Ser. No. 08/341,805, filed for B. Waring Partridge on Nov.
 18, 1994.
Alternatively, of course, a CDROM or floppy disk reader can
be coupled to
controller 300 (employing well-known approaches for
coupling a reader to a
computer) and features can be installed through such a
reader

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INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

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NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
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APPL-NO: 08/ 627661

DATE FILED: April 4, 1996

PARENT-CASE:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS Related subject
matter is disclosed in
the following applications filed concurrently herewith and
assigned to the same
Assignee thereof: U.S. patent application Ser. No.
08/627,657, entitled "A
Customer Telecommunication Interface Device With Built-In
Network Features, now
U.S. Pat. No. 5,926,464;" U.S. patent application Ser.
No. 08/627,659,
entitled "Packet Telephone System, now pending;" U.S.
patent application Ser.
No. 08/627,660, entitled "Method And Apparatus For
Automated Provisioning And
Billing Of Communication Services, now U.S. Pat. No.
5,835,580;" and U.S.